

BEATRICE FIRE & RESCUE

Annual Report 2007



BEATRICE
FIRE & RESCUE

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A word from Chief Daake...

Dear Mayor, Council, and Citizens of Beatrice:

On behalf of the Beatrice Fire and Rescue personnel, I respectfully submit for review the 2007 Annual Report. The dedication and passion of our personnel are two key factors for a successful year. We are part of a team that responded 24/7/365, on holidays, during storms, and in the middle of the night.

2007 was another record year for your fire department. Our annual call volume was the highest it has ever been; at 2,711 responses. Overall this demonstrates a 15% boost in calls from 2006.

Calls for Emergency Medical Services continue to account for a significant portion of our responses. In 2007 we had a total of 2,288 EMS responses, which is an 18.67% increase from the year before. 911/Tiered calls had a slight increase in calls but the area of largest growth was in out of town transfers. Here we experienced a staggering increase of 39.93%.

There were 2 civilian fire injuries and 4 firefighters injured on the fire ground in 2007. Fortunately none of these injuries were too serious. The fires causing the highest property loss in 2007 were the Holiday Villa Motel, the Parks Department, and a duplex on S. 5th. In May we successfully rescued two trapped occupants at 902 Market St. when their house caught on fire.

Another significant event took place when we were called for mutual aide to a fire in Wymore on Nov. 5th, 2007 when Wymore Firefighter Jeremy Wach lost his life battling a house fire. That night, the next day, and the following week had a profound effect upon us all.

Last year we documented a total of 4,782.71 staff hours of training. Continually training on EMS, fire fighting, specialized rescue, and hazardous materials procedures insures the delivery of a safe and efficient service to the community.

To that end, through the efforts of all members of our department, I wish to thank the residents of Beatrice for the opportunity to serve them, and extend my sincere thanks to the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator, and all City employees for all their help throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Brian Daake

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Retirements

Bob Miller is a native of Beatrice, attended Beatrice Public Schools graduated in 1967. He joined the Beatrice Fire Department that same year as a volunteer and was hired as a full-time firefighter in 1973. During his career, he held all shift positions including Senior Driver, was promoted to Shift Captain in 1988 and was in charge of the Department's Junior Firefighter Program for many years.

Bob's hobbies are hunting and fishing and now he will have a chance to do more of each.



Captain Bob Miller
40 Years of Service



Captain Arlyn Ullsperger
34 Years of Service

Arlyn Ullsperger, also a Beatrice native, attended Beatrice Public Schools and graduated in 1974. Arlyn joined the Beatrice Fire Department as a volunteer in 1973 while still in High School and was hired as a full-time firefighter in 1976. He spent most of his career in charge of apparatus and equipment maintenance for the department.

Arlyn plans to continue working for a few years in businesses that he started prior to retiring. He and his wife Terri enjoy camping and I'm sure he will find more time to do that now also.

Bob and Arlyn's combined 74 years of experience will be missed and very hard to replace. They were both very dedicated while on-duty and off and could always be depended upon when extra help was needed. We wish them both many happy and healthy retirement years.

Promotions



Craig Fisher

Craig Fisher graduated from Friend, NE High School in 1986 and then served in the US Army for the next six years. He was hired in 1993 as a full-time firefighter for Beatrice Fire & Rescue, earned an associate degree in Fire Protection Technology at Southeast Community College in Lincoln and in 1999 received his Paramedic certification from Creighton University. Craig was promoted to the rank of Shift Captain when Bob Miller retired in October of 2007 and is in charge of "A" Shift. He also serves the Department as a Haz-Mat Technician and is our Specialized Rescue Commander. Craig has two daughters, Kylie age 10 and Jaden age 6.

Jake Carrel is a Beatrice native and graduated from Beatrice High School in 1999. He received an associate degree in Fire Protection Technology from Southeast Community College in Lincoln in 2001. He started his career with Beatrice Fire & Rescue as a reserve firefighter and was hired full-time in September 2000. He is an EMT, Haz-Mat Technician, computer software/hardware advisor, and coordinates the Reserve Firefighter program. Jake was promoted to the rank of Shift Captain when Arlyn Ullsperger retired in October 2007 and is in charge of "B" Shift.



Jake Carrel

New Faces

We welcome the following to our Fire Department Family



Jake Yurka

Jeremiah (Jake) Yurka, is a Beatrice native, attended Beatrice Public School and graduated from Beatrice High School in 1997. After graduation, Jake joined the United States Marines, where he served as a Scout Sniper for the 2nd Battalion 8th Marines. After completing his military service, Jake earned a Fire Science Technology degree from Des Moines Area Community College and received his Firefighter I and II certifications in 2005. He was a paid on-call firefighter for the West Des Moines Fire Department while living there. He will earn his National EMT-B certification in March 2008.

Jake received a Criminal Justice degree from Southeast Community College in Lincoln in March 2007 and was working as a Correctional Officer at the Nebraska State Penitentiary when hired as a firefighter for Beatrice Fire & Rescue. Jake was hired in October 2007 to fill a vacancy created when Arlyn Ullsperger retired.

Jake enjoys hunting, fishing, movies, competitive mountain biking and spending time with his family.

Alan Viox, Jr., was born and raised in Nebraska City. He graduated from High School and then attended Southeast Community College in Lincoln, where he earned an associate degree in Fire Protection Technology. He served as a volunteer on the Nebraska City Fire Department for five years. During those years he became an EMT-B, earned his Firefighter I certification and started working towards becoming a Paramedic.

Alan was hired in October 2007 to fill a vacancy created when Bob Miller retired and is continuing his pursuit of his Paramedic certification.

After college, Alan married his wife, Melissa, in March 2003. They have a one year old daughter, named Elsie, and expecting a son at the end of April 2008. They currently reside in Nebraska City and will be moving to Beatrice in the spring. They are very anxious to make the move and to become part of the Beatrice community.



Alan Viox

Administrative Personnel



Brian Daake, Fire Chief
17 Years of Service



John Carrel, Fire Inspector
29 Years of Service



Shirley Parde, Secretary
6 Years of Service

Shift Personnel

“A” Shift



Craig Fisher,
Captain/Paramedic
14 Years of Service



Michael Arterburn, Driver/EMT
33 Years of Service



Jim Young, FF/Paramedic
7 Years of Service



Brett Wells, FF/Paramedic
6 Years of Service



Bryan Jelinek, FF/EMT
3 Years of Service



Corey Lieneman,
FF/Paramedic
2 Years of Service



Jake Yurka
< 1 Year

Shift Personnel

“B” Shift



Jake Carrel, Captain/EMT
7 Years of Service



Kevin Weakland, Driver/EMT
16 Years of Service



Lonnie Litterick, FF/EMT
14 Years of Service



Jeff Hays, FF/Paramedic
13 Years of Service



Dave Heckman, FF/Paramedic
13 Years of Service



Jeremy Seggerman,
FF/Paramedic
3 Years of Service



Nick Koch, FF/EMT
1 Year of Service

Shift Personnel

“C” Shift



Jeff Van Winkle,
Captain/Paramedic
14 Years of Service



Aaron Burger, Driver/EMT
16 Years of Service



Mike Massey, FF/Paramedic
13 Years of Service



Julie Compton, FF/Paramedic
9 Years of Service



Nathan Koch, FF/EMT
5 Years of Service



Darren Allington, FF/EMT
2 Years of Service



Alan Viox
< 1 Year

Apparatus



1994 Smeal/Spartan



1975 Mack



1978 Pierce/LTI



1997 GMC C6500
Rescue Truck



2002 International Navistar
Hazmat Van



2006 Ford E-450 Type-III
75,000 miles



2002 Ford E-450 Type-III
91,000 miles



2002 Ford E-450 Type-III
120,000 miles



1996 Ford E-350 Type-III
129,000 miles



2004 Ford Expedition
60,000 miles



1999 Chevy Suburban
101,000 miles

We also house and help maintain Beatrice Rural Fire Department's apparatus including: A tanker, pumper and two grass trucks.

Significant Events



We had several major structure fires in 2007 including: the Holiday Villa Motel, the City Parks Department maintenance shop, a duplex, a mutual-aid fatality fire in Wymore and several local residential house fires. Fire loss was significant and there were minor injuries to both civilians and firefighters; none of our local firefighters were injured seriously. On November 5, 2007 we lost brother firefighter Jeremy Wach when the roof collapsed on him and two fellow firefighters while fighting the house fire in Wymore. Jeremy was a volunteer firefighter in Wymore and served Gage County as a Deputy Sheriff. His family, friends and co-workers will forever be in our thoughts and prayers.

Open House

May 24, 2007



We had a very good turn-out for our Open House during EMS Week. StarCare V medical helicopter assisted us with a mock ATV accident and the State Patrol "Roll-over" simulator was also a popular demonstration.

Type of Situation Found	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Commercial Fire	6	5	6	8	4
Residential Fire	25	17	24	25	20
Fire Outside Structure	1	1	3	2	3
Vehicle Fire	13	20	8	15	23
Tree, Brush, Grass Fire	7	19	4	31	18
Refuse Fire	3	8	5	12	10
Aircraft Fire	0	1	0	0	0
Outside Spill w/Fire	1	0	0	0	0
Fire/Explosion, Unclassified	12	3	0	3	2
TOTAL	68	74	50	96	80

Emergency Medical

Rescue (incl. 1045 w/o extricat.)	18	45	41	52	49
Emergency Medical Call	192	341	392	447	478
Water/Ice Rescue	0	1	0	0	1
Extrication	13	19	10	17	16
Rescue Call, Unclassified	16	11	2	0	1
TOTAL	239	417	445	516	545

Hazardous Condition

Over-pressure/Rupture	1	1	0	0	0
Gas Leak (Natural/LPG)	2	5	2	14	10
Hazardous Condition, Other	5	3	2	1	2
Spill/Leak, No Fire	13	19	11	21	16
Electrical Wiring/Equip. Problem	0	3	6	7	2
Excessive Heat	0	7	2	4	2
Power Line Down	0	1	2	3	6
Arcing/Electrical Short	0	5	4	2	10
Carbon Monoxide Incident	0	9	2	2	3
Hazardous Condition, Unclass.	8	1	1	1	0
TOTAL	29	54	32	55	51

Type of Situation Found	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Severe Weather/Nat. Disaster	0	1	0	1	0
Service Call	9	3	4	2	2
Smoke/Odor Removal	8	3	1	3	4
Assist Law Enf./Public Serv.	2	8	2	5	7
Unauthorized Burning	1	1	1	0	2
Cover Assignment	1	0	1	0	0
Service Call, Unclassified	23	1	1	1	4
Good Intent Call	12	4	2	2	2
Smoke Scare	5	12	8	17	8
Animal Rescue	0	2	0	0	0
Vicinity Alarm	0	0	0	0	0
Controlled Burning	0	1	1	4	1
Mistaken For Smoke	5	1	1	4	3
Water Problem		1	0	0	0
Carbon Monoxide Inv. Only		7	7	6	7
Haz-Mat Investigation Only		17	4	14	15
TOTAL	66	62	33	59	55

False Calls or Cancelled Enroute

False Call/No Incident Found	38	11	10	5	9
Malicious/Mischievous Alarm	6	4	5	9	6
Bomb Scare, No Bomb	0	0	0	0	0
System Malfunction	16	15	27	15	14
Unintentional Alarm	51	87	67	63	74
Cancelled Enroute		22	45	68	68
TOTAL	111	139	154	160	171

Mutual-Aid

Included in Grand Total	41	49	62	56	66
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GRAND TOTALS	554	795	776	886	902
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Fire Response Summary

2003-2007



STATISTIC	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total Fires	68	70	50	96	80
Total Fire Loss	\$421,535	\$111,450	\$510,700	\$186,890	\$1,110,600
Before Fire Property Value	\$2,248,815	\$1,606,000	\$44,848,268	\$1,482,090	\$1,731,750
Property Value Saved	\$1,827,280	\$1,494,550	\$44,336,585	\$1,295,200	\$621,150
Total Percent Saved	81.26%	93.06%	98.86%	87.39%	35.87%
Number of Fire Deaths	0	0	0	0	0
Firefighter Injuries	1	0	6	6	4
Civilian Injuries	5	2	3	0	2
Busiest Month	March	Oct.	Oct.	Jan.	Aug.
Busiest Day	Wed.	Sat.	Tues.	Fri.	Mon.
Busiest Time	2-2:59 PM	11-11:59 AM	4-4:59 PM	3-3:59 PM	6-6:59 PM
Avg. Response Time	3.27 min.	3.22 min.	3.13 min.	3.35 min.	3.63 min.
Mutual-Aid Calls	41	49	62	56	66





Ambulance Service

2003 - 2007



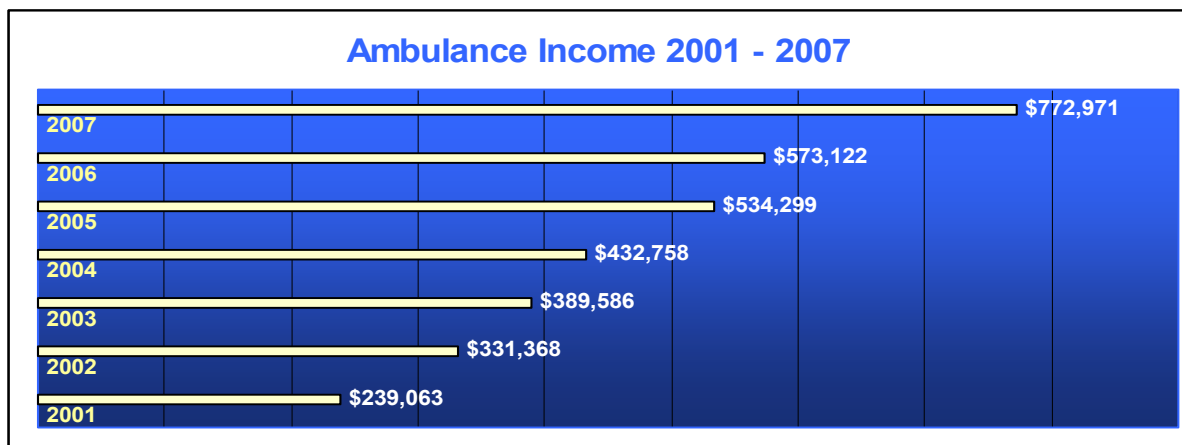
TYPE OF CALL	NUMBER OF EMS RESPONSES				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
911 Calls	924	1047	1263	1255	1285
In-Town Transfers	189	148	72	75	163
Out-Of-Town Transfers	551	577	593	576	806
Standby	23	31	32	22	34
TOTAL EMS RESPONSES	1687	1803	1960	1928	2288
Percent of Increase	6.10%	6.87%	8.70%	-1.66%	18.67%

* Most Common Age of Patient 75 - 84 years of age

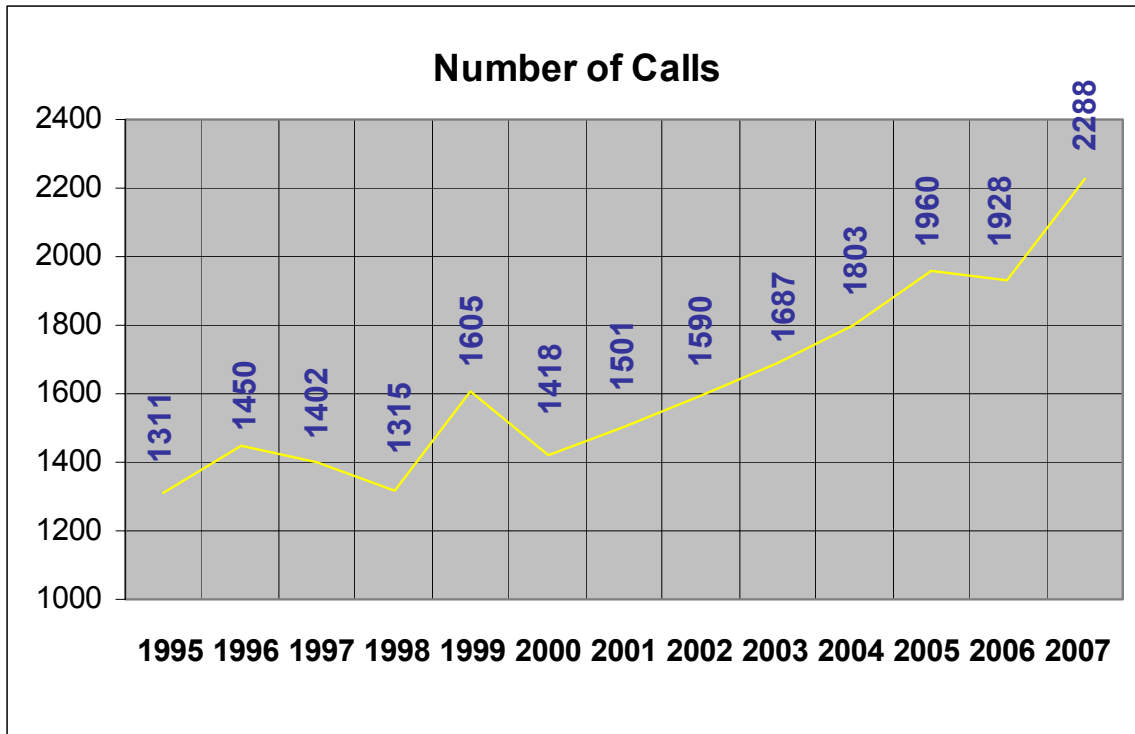
* Busiest Hour of the Day 12:00 - 12:59 PM

* Busiest Day of the Week Monday

* Most Common Reasons for Call 1. Transfers (local and out-of-town)
2. Falls
3. Vehicular Accident
4. Respiratory Distress
5. Cardiac/Chest Pain



Ambulance Call Volume Comparisons 1995-2007



Ambulance Income Comparisons 1996-2007

